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NORTH DAKOTA CENSUS DATA CENTER

REPORT SERIES

No. 10 MARCH 1988

THE RED RIVER VALLEY: A SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC PROFILE

by

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Preface

This report is tenth in a series of publications offering a description and analysis of the social, demographic, and economic characteristics of North Dakota residents. While many of the previous reports have focused on specific subpopulations (such as Native Americans, the elderly, and dual-earner couples), this report focuses on one geographic region of the state--the Red River Valley.

We wish to extend our appreciation to Jennifer Daul for her help in compiling material for this report. We wish to thank Carol VavRosky and Brenda Ekstrom for preparing the figures for this report. Finally, our thanks is due to Carol Jensen for typing this manuscript.

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Highlights

* *Total population in the Red River Valley has continually increased over the past eight decades. While metropolitan population continued to increase, nonmetropolitan population increased from 1900 to 1940, but has been in decline since that time.*

* *While the number of families in the Red River Valley is increasing, the proportion of married-couple families is decreasing. Increases have been noted in single-parent families.*

* *Average farm size in the Red River Valley doubled over the past three decades. At the same time, the number of farms dropped to less than half its 1950 total.*

* *Labor force participation rates of males in the Red River Valley have held relatively constant over the past four decades, while female rates have steadily increased. Labor force participation rates in metropolitan areas have been consistently higher than those in nonmetropolitan areas.*

* *Family income in metropolitan Red River Valley counties, whether farm or nonfarm, was higher than either farm or nonfarm income in nonmetropolitan counties.*

* *Church growth in metropolitan Red River Valley counties has not kept pace with population growth. Loss of church attendees in nonmetropolitan Red River Valley churches exceeded its population decline.*

THE RED RIVER VALLEY: A SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC PROFILE

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and Sheila D. Anonsen

Nearly one-third of North Dakota's population live in the six counties comprising the state's portion of the Red River Valley. The purpose of this report is to describe the population of the Red River Valley and its social and economic characteristics. Special attention will be given to an analysis of how these characteristics have changed over time. Given these changes, those who use this report may determine future trends for the Red River Valley's people and industries.

The Red River Valley

Red River of the North flows north from Lake Traverse, Minnesota into Hudson Bay, Canada and serves as a boundary between North Dakota and Minnesota. Six North Dakota counties and five Minnesota counties adjacent to the Red River comprise the Red River Valley (see Figure 1). The North Dakota counties include Cass, Grand Forks, Pembina, Richland, Traill, and Walsh. The Minnesota counties include Clay, Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Polk, Traverse, and Wilkin.

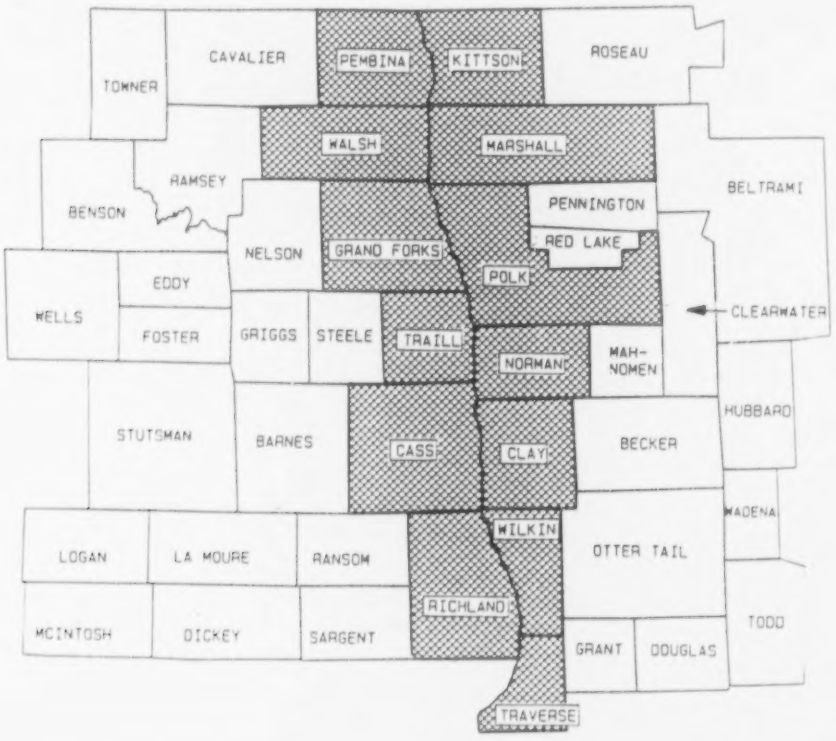

Figure 1. North Dakota and Minnesota Counties in the Red River Valley

Two metropolitan areas in the Red River Valley have been defined as Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSA's): Grand Forks and Fargo-Moorhead. The counties included in these two SMSA's are Grand Forks, Polk*, Cass, and Clay.

People in the Valley

Population of the Red River Valley increased from 211,391 persons in 1900 to 336,193 persons in 1980, a 59 percent increase (see Appendix Table 1). While populations in the metropolitan counties in the Valley increased by nearly 170 percent, the population in the nonmetropolitan counties decreased by over 20 percent.

The Valley's population has steadily shifted from predominantly rural to predominantly urban. In 1900, 58 percent of the population lived in nonmetropolitan counties and 42 percent lived in the metropolitan counties. Eighty years later, 29 percent lived in the nonmetropolitan counties and 71 percent lived in the metropolitan counties.

Between 1970 and 1980, the total population increased by 6 percent. The population in the metropolitan counties rose by nearly 11 percent while the nonmetropolitan county population dropped by nearly 3 percent (see Figure 2). Meanwhile, the total populations for North Dakota and Minnesota increased between 1970 and 1980 by 7.1 percent and 5.7 percent, respectively.

In 1970, there were disproportionately more males than females in the Red River Valley. The number of males was 159,265 while the number of females was 156,713 (see Appendix Table 2). By 1980, the number of males and females was nearly equal with 168,212 females and 167,981 males. Differences can be noted in the sex ratio between 1970 and 1980. Both metropolitan and nonmetropolitan counties had more males than females. In 1980, the sex ratio favored males in nonmetropolitan counties but favored females in metropolitan counties.

Decidedly different distributions of people by age and sex were found between those who reside in nonmetropolitan and metropolitan counties. The bulk of the population in the metropolitan counties (47.4 percent) is under age 25. The largest age group consists of persons aged 20 through 24 with 14.5 percent of the population. The presence of four college campuses contributes heavily to this age group. The elderly, those over age 75, comprise only 4.5 percent of the population in the metropolitan counties (see Figure 3).

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*Polk was no longer classified as a Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA) as of 1983. It is included as an SMSA in this report since all data predates 1983.

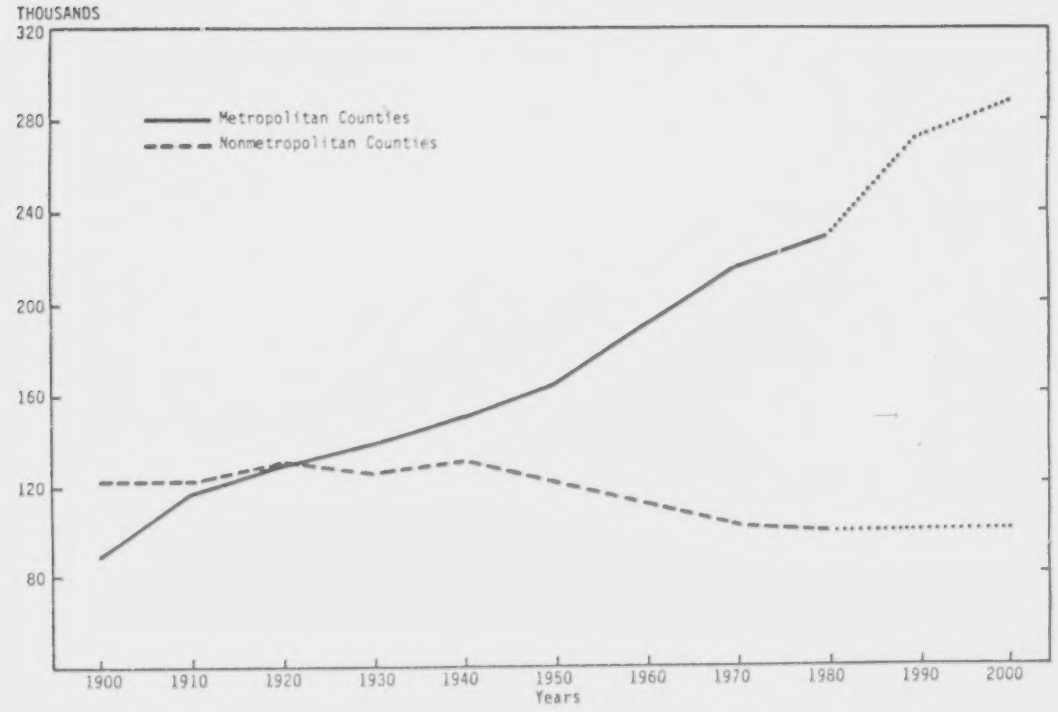

Figure 2. Population of the Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Red River Valley Counties, 1900-2000

There is less variation among the various age groups in the nonmetropolitan counties where the bulk of the population (47.7 percent) is under age 30. The largest age group, persons aged 15 through 19, comprises 10.0 percent of the population. Those over age 75 comprise 7.8 percent of the population in the nonmetropolitan counties (see Figure 4).

Families in the Valley

The majority of families in the Red River Valley are married-couple families. This type of family comprised 87.5 percent of all metropolitan families and 88.7 percent of all nonmetropolitan families in 1980. This represents a decline only in the metropolitan counties where 90.2 percent of all families had been of the married-couple type in 1970 (see Figure 5). In 1980, 53.8 percent of all married-couple families had children under 18 years of age. Of these, 69 percent lived in metropolitan counties (see Appendix Table 3).

A number of single-parent families headed by a male increased by 11 percent between 1970 and 1980. The number of male-headed single-parent families increased by 28 percent in metropolitan counties but decreased by nearly 8 percent in nonmetropolitan counties. Nearly one-fifth of these families had children under age 18.

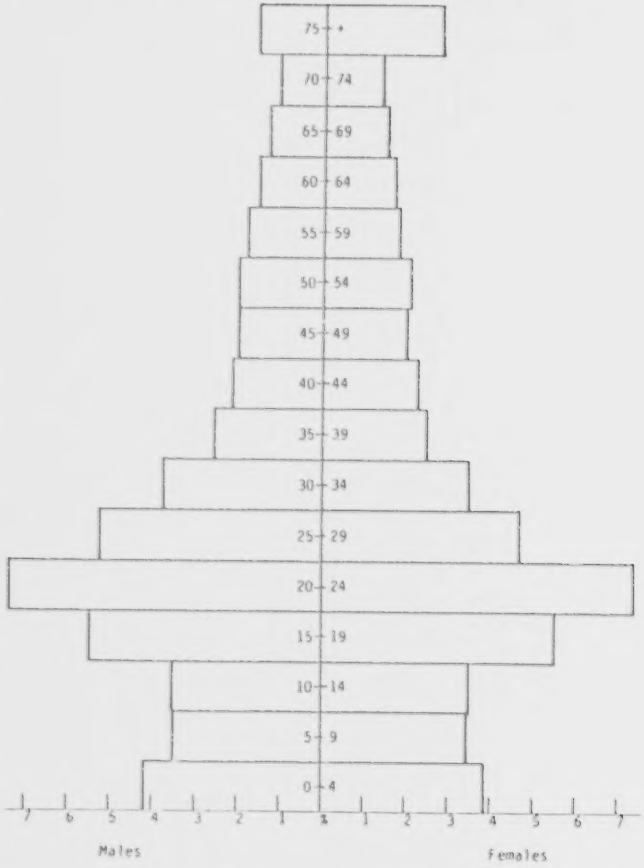

Figure 3. Metropolitan Counties, Red River Valley, 1980

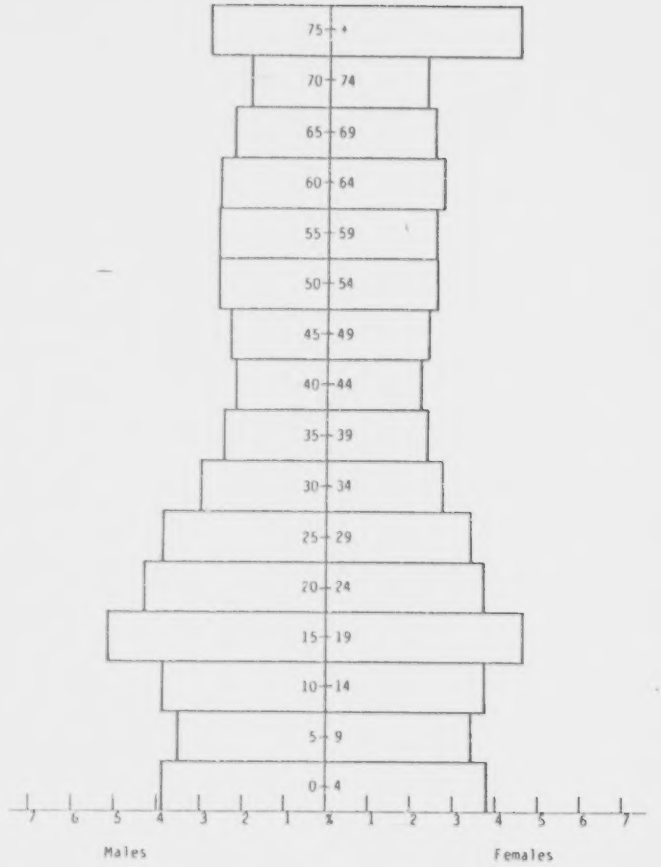

Figure 4. Nonmetropolitan Counties, Red River Valley, 1980

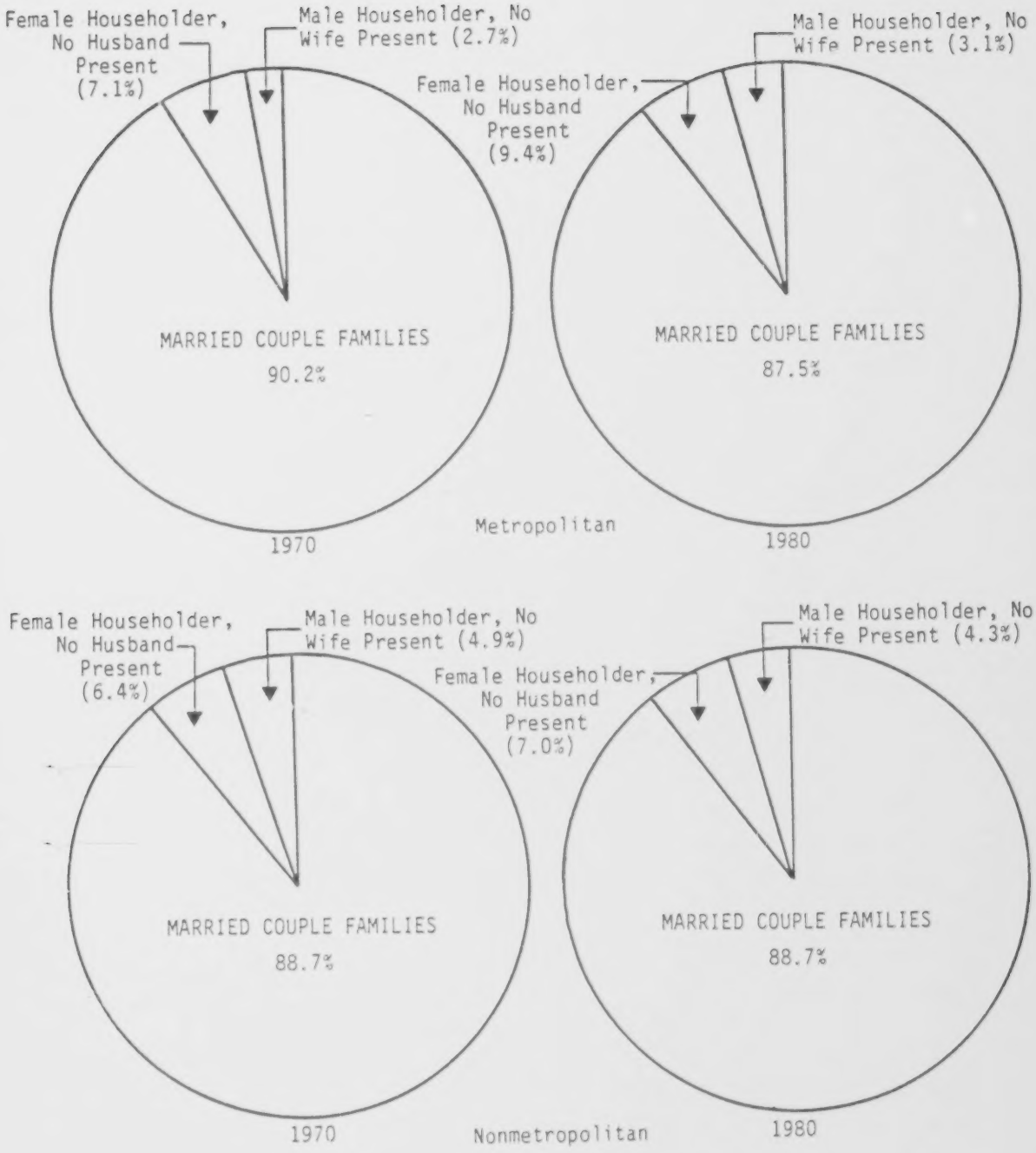

Figure 5. Types of Families in Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Red River Valley Counties, 1970 and 1980

The number of female-headed families with no husband present increased by 42 percent in the Red River Valley, by 54 percent in metropolitan counties and by nearly 13 percent in the nonmetropolitan counties. Nearly one-half of these families had children under age 18 (see Appendix Table 4).

Number of people over the age of 65 increased between 1970 and 1980 by 13 percent. The majority, 68.8 percent, of people ages 65 through 74 lived in families in 1980. Most (44.6 percent) people over the age of 75 lived in families, although the number in group quarters rose from 3.7 percent to 19.1 percent as the age group shifted (see Appendix Table 5). A difference may be noted between metropolitan and nonmetropolitan counties where more people over 65 are in families in nonmetropolitan counties than in metropolitan counties. The numbers of elderly in group quarters and nonrelatives in households were larger in metropolitan than nonmetropolitan counties (see Figure 6).

Figure 6. Household Relationship for Persons 65 and Over in the Red River Valley, 1980

Agriculture in the Valley

Average farm size doubled in the Red River Valley over the past three decades, increasing in size from 365 acres in 1950 to 727 acres in 1982 (see Figure 7). Farms in the metropolitan counties averaged 15 acres larger than those in the nonmetropolitan counties until 1982. At that time, nonmetropolitan county farms were slightly larger (four acres) than those in metropolitan counties (see Appendix Table 6).

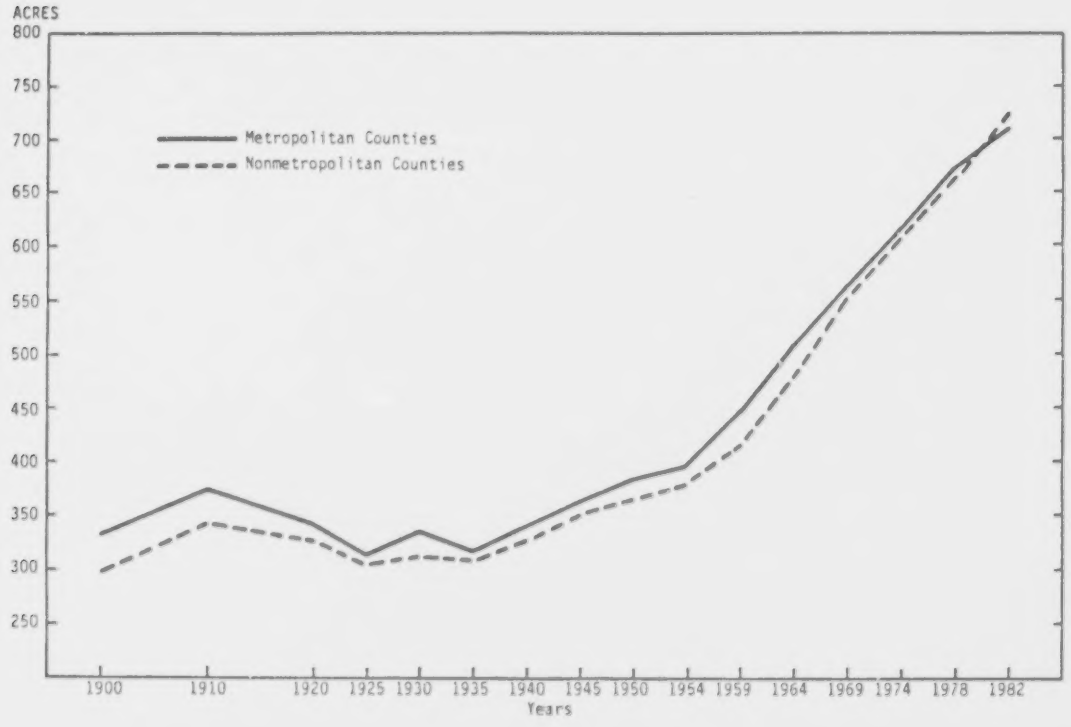

Figure 7. Average Number of Acres Per Farm in Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Red River Valley Counties, 1900-1982

Average farm size on the North Dakota side of the Red River was larger than that on the Minnesota side of the river. Farms on the North Dakota side of the Red River averaged 801 acres in 1982 while farms on the Minnesota side averaged 639 acres.

Although the North Dakota counties in the Red River Valley comprised only 15.5 percent of all North Dakota cropland, it accounted for over 26 percent of the state's total sales from agricultural products. Total sales from agricultural products in the Red River Valley amounted to $597,375,000 in 1982. Total sales for the entire state were $2,294,326,000. While the Minnesota Red River Valley counties made up 17.4 percent of Minnesota's total cropland, it accounted for only 10 percent of the state's total

agricultural products sales. The total agricultural sales in the Minnesota Red River Valley counties amounted to $567,682,000 in 1982 while total sales for all of Minnesota for agricultural products were $5,939,629,000.

The number of farms per county fell from an average of 2,000 farms in 1950 to 982 farms in 1982. Although there was an average of about 50 percent more farms in metropolitan counties than in nonmetropolitan counties, both types have declined by about one-half over the past three decades (see Appendix Table 7). The largest number of farms per county was in 1935 with an average of 2,305 farms (see Figure 8).

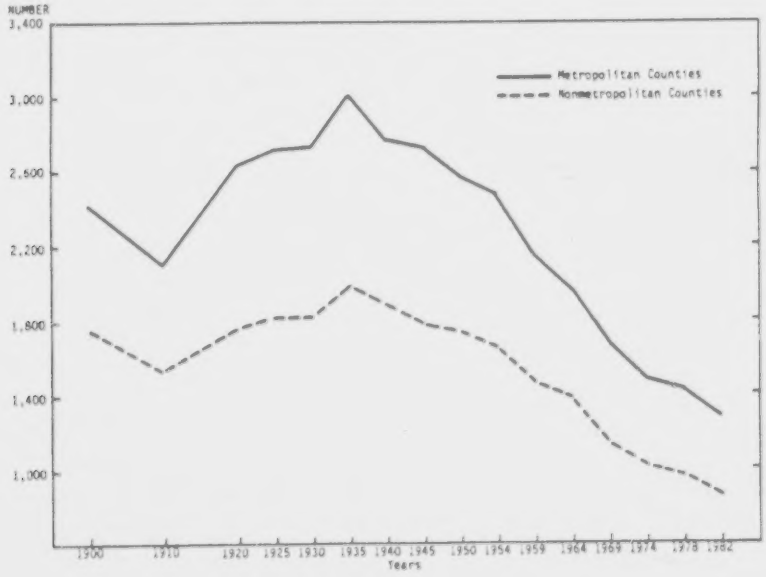

Figure 8. Average Number of Farms Per County in Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Red River Valley Counties, 1900-1982

Industry in the Valley

Between 1940 and 1980, the number of people in the labor force in metropolitan counties increased by 59 percent. However, in nonmetropolitan counties the number decreased by 24 percent over the same time period. During the past ten years, the labor force for both metropolitan and nonmetropolitan counties increased by 22 percent and 6 percent, respectively (see Appendix Table 8). In both metropolitan and nonmetropolitan counties, more males than females were employed in the labor force (see Figure 9).

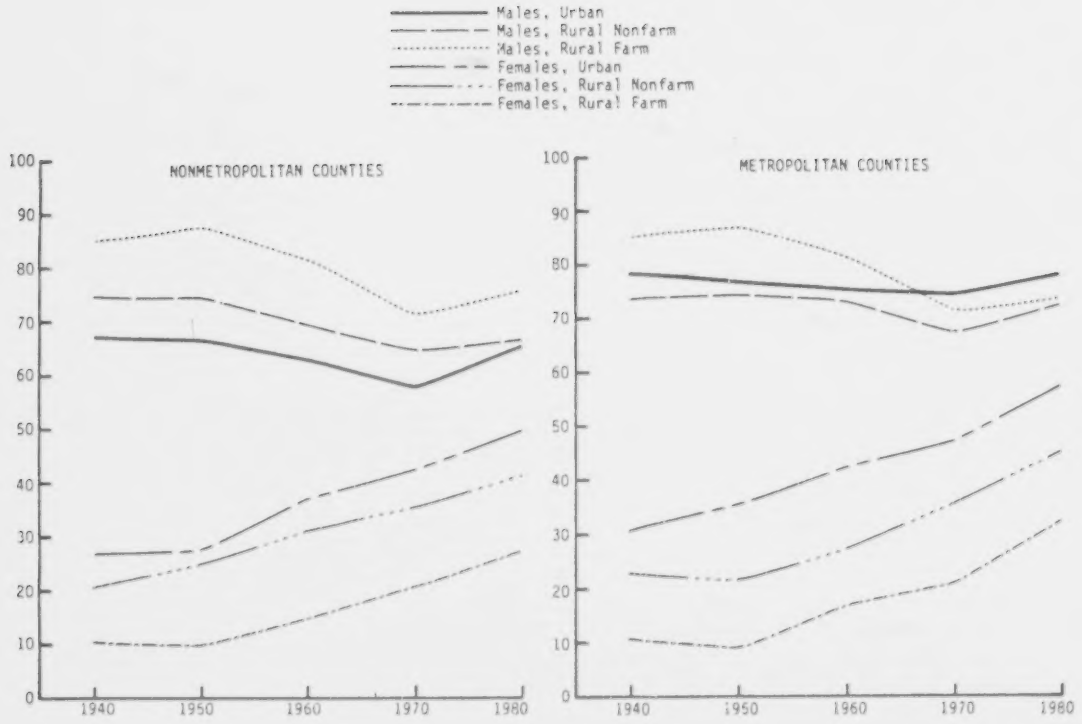

Figure 9. Labor Force Participation Rates by Gender for Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Counties of the Red River Valley, 1940-1980

Income in the Valley

Median family income increased dramatically over the past three decades, from $3,054 in 1950 to $18,831 in 1980 (see Appendix Table 9). Incomes in the metropolitan counties were consistently higher than in nonmetropolitan counties. When measured in 1979 dollars, median family income in metropolitan counties increased by 10 percent, and in nonmetropolitan counties median family income increased by 26 percent.

Median family income in metropolitan counties was $19,843 compared with $16,536 in nonmetropolitan counties as of 1980. With the exception of nonmetropolitan counties in 1980, median family income of the rural-farm portion of Red River Valley counties was consistently lower than that of the counties as a whole (see Figure 10).

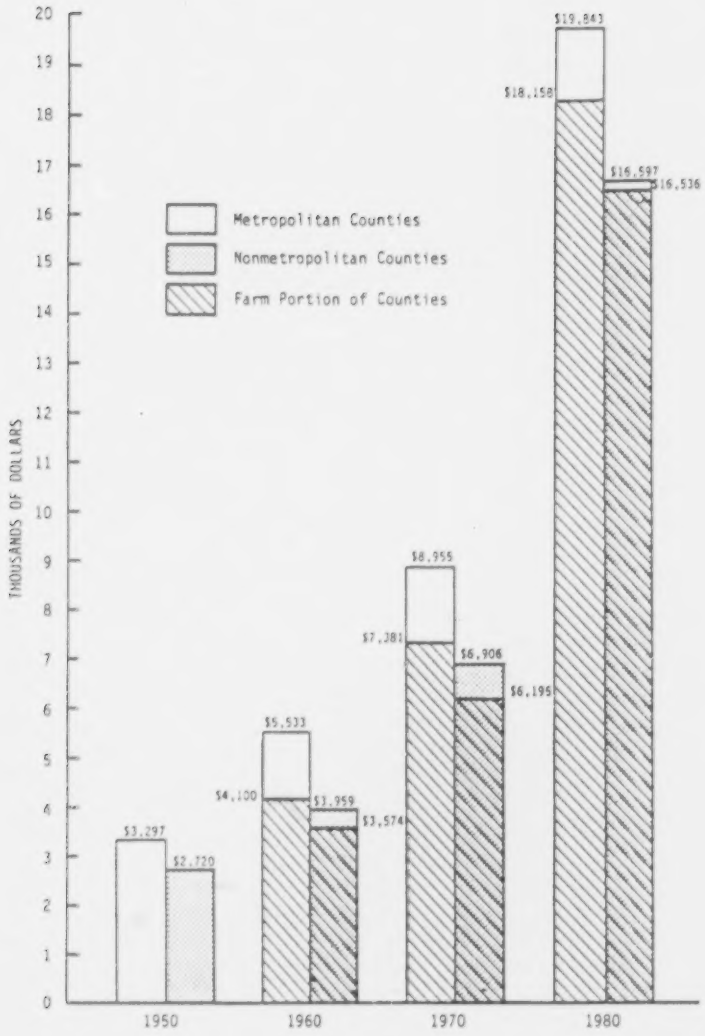

Figure 10. Family Median Income of Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Red River Valley Counties, 1950-1980

Although the total number of families in the Red River Valley increased by 12 percent between 1970 and 1980, the number of families below the poverty level decreased by 14 percent. In the metropolitan counties, the number of families increased by 16 percent while the number of families below the poverty level decreased by 5 percent. The biggest decrease in the poverty level was found in nonmetropolitan counties. While the total number of families increased by only 4 percent, the number below the poverty level decreased by 25 percent (see Appendix Table 10). At the same

time that the number of families in poverty has fallen, the number of these families with children under age 18 has increased over the past decade. While 57.4 percent of the families in poverty in 1970 had children under age 18, the percentage had risen to 73.0 percent in 1980 (see Figure 11).

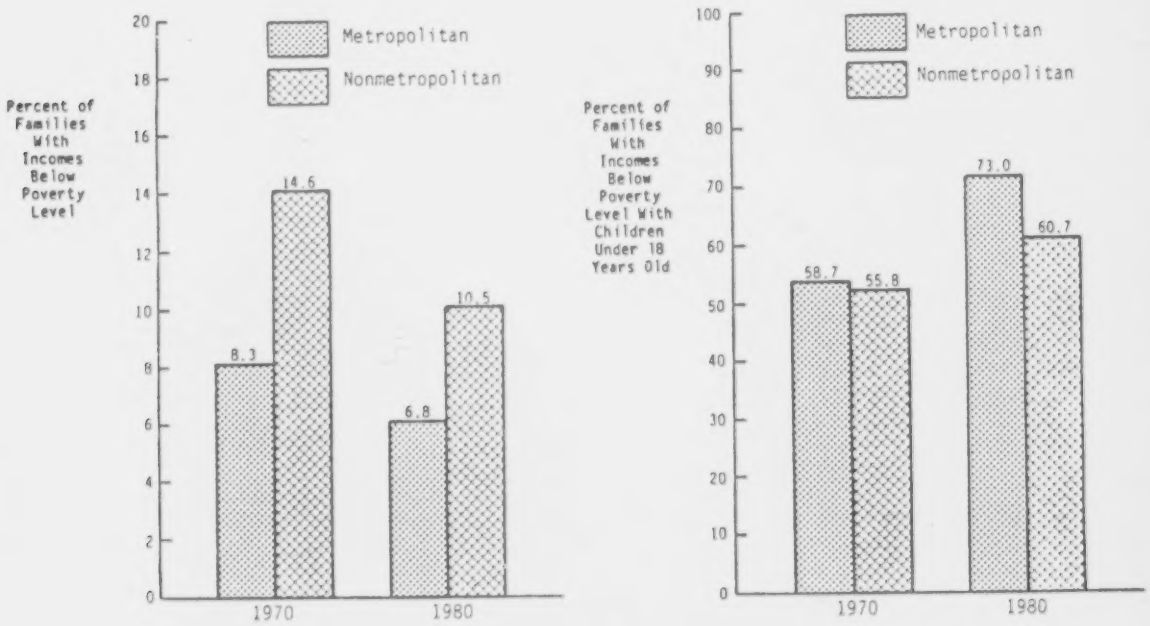

Figure 11. Poverty in Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Red River Valley Counties, 1970 and 1980

Churches in the Valley

Church attendance and the ratio of churches to the population in the Red River Valley counts as one of the highest in the nation. In 1971, over 73 percent of the population considered themselves to be church attendees. This compared with 76.6 percent in North Dakota, 66.3 percent in Minnesota, and 49.6 percent nationwide. In 1980, the percentage of the population who were church attendees had dropped to just under 72 percent, compared with 73.9 percent in North Dakota, 65.1 percent in Minnesota, and 49.7 percent nationwide (see Appendix Table 11).

Over 55 percent of the church adherents in the Red River Valley attend Lutheran churches (American Lutheran Church, Lutheran Church of America, or Missouri Synod Lutheran Church). An additional 31 percent are Catholic while the remaining 14 percent attend churches of other denominations. Although these percentages have remained virtually unchanged between 1971 and 1980, a slight growth in the percentage of Catholics and other non-Lutheran denominations is evident in the metropolitan counties.

Between 1971 and 1980, the population in metropolitan counties grew nearly three times as fast as the number of church adherents and the number of churches. During that same period, the number of church adherents declined in the nonmetropolitan counties at a faster rate than the decline in total population and the decline in the number of churches (see Figure 12).

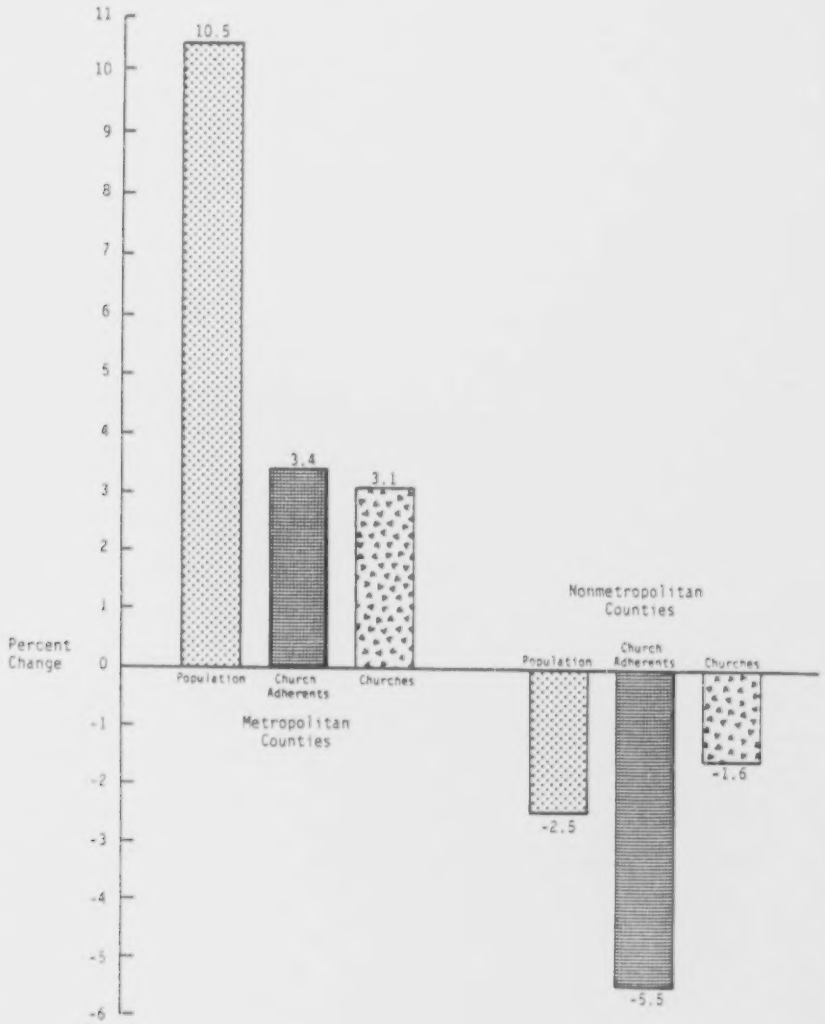

Figure 12. Percent Change of Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Red River Valley Populations Between 1970 and 1980 and Churches and Church Adherents Between 1971 and 1980

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APPENDIX

APPENDIX TABLE 1. POPULATION OF METROPOLITAN AND NONMETROPOLITAN COUNTIES OF THE RED RIVER VALLEY, 1900-1980

Year	Metropolitan Counties		Nonmetropolitan Counties		Total
	Number	Percent of Total Population	Number	Percent of Total Population	
1980	238,518	70.9	97,675	29.1	336,193
1970	215,775	68.3	100,203	31.7	315,978
1960	190,886	62.9	112,361	37.1	303,247
1950	164,300	57.5	121,376	42.5	285,676
1940	150,438	53.3	131,822	46.7	282,260
1930	139,820	52.4	126,893	47.6	266,723
1920	129,142	49.7	130,443	50.3	259,585
1910	117,464	48.8	123,009	51.2	240,473
1900	88,455	41.8	122,936	58.2	211,391

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census of Population.

APPENDIX TABLE 2. POPULATION BY AGE IN METROPOLITAN AND NONMETROPOLITAN RED RIVER VALLEY COUNTIES, 1970 AND 1980

Age	1970						1980					
	Total		Metropolitan		Nonmetropolitan		Total		Metropolitan		Nonmetropolitan	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Less than 5	12,883	12,203	9,239	8,659	3,644	3,544	13,613	13,008	9,779	9,310	3,834	3,698
5-9	15,889	15,080	10,938	10,403	4,951	4,677	12,125	11,449	8,579	8,093	3,546	3,356
10-14	17,014	16,425	11,415	10,952	5,599	5,473	12,542	11,788	8,699	8,198	3,843	3,590
15-19	18,276	17,380	12,509	12,528	5,767	4,852	18,133	17,423	12,925	12,865	5,208	4,558
20-24	16,159	14,448	13,411	11,988	2,748	2,460	21,782	20,610	17,467	17,045	4,315	3,565
25-29	9,532	8,746	7,219	6,536	2,313	2,210	16,222	14,848	12,317	11,556	3,905	3,292
30-34	7,631	7,896	5,512	5,752	2,119	2,144	12,208	11,151	9,303	8,426	2,905	2,725
35-39	7,754	7,780	5,465	5,333	2,289	2,447	8,778	8,390	6,403	6,018	2,375	2,372
40-44	8,239	8,041	5,511	5,375	2,728	2,666	7,156	7,379	4,981	5,204	2,175	2,175
45-49	8,028	7,753	5,148	5,061	2,880	2,692	6,952	7,160	4,753	4,858	2,199	2,302
50-54	7,782	7,795	4,842	4,913	2,940	2,882	7,464	7,530	4,900	5,015	2,564	2,515
55-59	7,212	7,195	4,323	4,436	2,889	2,759	7,216	7,204	4,646	4,685	2,570	2,519
60-64	6,418	6,529	3,675	3,910	2,743	2,619	6,564	7,043	4,070	4,424	2,494	2,619
65-69	5,371	5,815	2,973	3,477	2,398	2,338	5,568	6,366	3,304	3,963	2,264	2,403
70-74	4,509	5,176	2,514	3,115	1,995	2,061	4,476	5,624	2,566	3,388	1,910	2,236
75+	6,568	8,451	3,639	5,004	2,929	3,447	7,182	11,239	3,981	6,797	3,201	4,442
Total	159,265	156,713	108,333	107,442	50,932	49,271	167,981	168,212	118,673	119,845	49,308	48,367

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census of Population.

APPENDIX TABLE 3. MARRIED-COUPLE FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER 6 AND WITH CHILDREN UNDER 18 IN METROPOLITAN AND NONMETROPOLITAN RED RIVER VALLEY COUNTIES, 1970 AND 1980

Residence of Families	1970		1980	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total married-couple families	66,704	--	73,079	--
With children under 6	19,484	29.2	19,915	27.3
With children under 18	39,181	58.7	39,330	53.8
Metropolitan total families	44,957	--	50,541	--
With children under 6	14,016	31.2	14,272	28.2
With children under 18	27,119	60.3	27,738	54.9
Nonmetropolitan total families	21,747	--	22,538	--
With children under 6	5,468	25.1	5,643	25.0
With children under 18	12,062	55.5	11,592	51.4

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census of Population.

APPENDIX TABLE 4. MALE- AND FEMALE-HEADED FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER 6 AND WITH CHILDREN UNDER 18 IN METROPOLITAN AND NONMETROPOLITAN RED RIVER VALLEY COUNTIES, 1970 AND 1980

Types of Families	1970		1980		Percent Change
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total male-headed families (no wife present)	2,579	--	2,869	--	11.2
With children under 6	86	3.3	240	8.4	
With children under 18	441	17.1	771	26.9	
Metropolitan total male-headed families (no wife present)	1,390	--	1,774	--	27.6
With children under 6	54	3.9	182	10.3	
With children under 18	283	20.4	556	31.3	
Nonmetropolitan total male-headed families (no wife present)	1,189	--	1,095	--	-7.9
With children under 6	32	2.7	58	5.3	
With children under 18	158	13.3	215	19.6	
Total female-headed families (no husband present)	5,093	--	7,208	--	41.5
With children under 6	748	14.7	1,723	23.9	
With children under 18	2,371	46.6	4,321	59.9	
Metropolitan total female-headed families (no husband present)	3,518	--	5,431	--	54.4
With children under 6	587	16.7	1,408	25.9	
With children under 18	1,765	50.2	3,461	63.7	
Nonmetropolitan total female-headed families (no husband present)	1,575	--	1,777	--	12.8
With children under 6	161	10.2	315	17.7	
With children under 18	606	38.5	860	48.4	

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census of Population.

APPENDIX TABLE 5. HOUSEHOLD RELATIONSHIP FOR PERSONS AGE 65 AND OVER IN THE RED RIVER VALLEY, 1980

Item	Age					
	65-74			75+		
	Total	Metropolitan	Nonmetropolitan	Total	Metropolitan	Nonmetropolitan
Number						
In families	15,109	8,811	6,298	8,255	4,548	3,707
Nonrelatives in household	6,032	3,826	2,206	6,732	4,097	2,635
In group quarters	822	547	275	3,529	2,168	1,361
Total	21,963	13,184	8,779	18,516	10,813	7,703
Percentage						
In families	68.8	66.8	71.7	44.6	42.1	48.1
Nonrelatives in household	27.5	29.0	25.1	36.4	37.9	34.2
In group quarters	3.7	4.1	3.1	19.1	20.0	17.7
Total	100.0	99.9	99.9	100.1	100.0	100.0

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census of Population.

APPENDIX TABLE 6. AVERAGE NUMBER OF ACRES PER FARM IN METROPOLITAN AND NONMETROPOLITAN COUNTIES OF THE RED RIVER VALLEY, 1950-1982

Year	Average Number of Acres Per Farm				
	Total	ND Red River Valley Counties	MN Red River Valley Counties	Metropolitan	Nonmetropolitan
1900	305	364	256	332	293
1910	350	416	295	372	341
1920	334	382	292	346	329
1925	309	355	270	317	306
1930	322	364	286	331	318
1935	314	342	290	321	310
1940	355	373	302	344	331
1945	354	394	320	361	351
1950	365	404	331	375	360
1954	387	426	354	395	384
1959	430	479	388	448	422
1964	493	544	449	510	485
1969	560	606	520	569	556
1974	621	479	572	626	619
1978	665	726	613	672	662
1982	727	801	639	724	728

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census of Agriculture.

APPENDIX TABLE 7. AVERAGE NUMBER OF FARMS PER METROPOLITAN AND NONMETROPOLITAN COUNTIES OF THE RED RIVER VALLEY, 1950-1982

Year	Average Number of Farms Per County				
	Total	ND Red River Valley Counties	MN Red River Valley Counties	Metropolitan	Nonmetropolitan
1900	1,988	2,162	1,840	2,421	1,796
1910	1,714	1,816	1,626	2,105	1,540
1920	2,033	2,007	2,056	2,632	1,767
1925	2,091	2,083	2,098	2,728	1,808
1930	2,096	2,141	2,057	2,737	1,811
1935	2,305	2,343	2,272	3,002	1,995
1940	2,164	2,158	2,169	2,782	1,889
1945	1,886	1,641	2,096	2,713	1,798
1950	2,000	1,993	2,007	2,584	1,741
1954	1,899	1,911	1,889	2,465	1,648
1959	1,667	1,692	1,645	2,147	1,453
1964	1,469	1,483	1,456	1,882	1,285
1969	1,295	1,344	1,253	1,668	1,130
1974	1,156	1,184	1,132	1,476	1,014
1978	1,100	1,132	1,074	1,411	962
1982	982	990	975	1,278	851

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census of Agriculture.

APPENDIX TABLE B. LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION BY GENDER FOR METROPOLITAN AND NONMETROPOLITAN COUNTIES OF THE RED RIVER VALLEY, 1940-1980

Item	1980				1970				1960				1950				1940			
	Total	Urban	Rural Nonfarm	Rural Farm	Total	Urban	Rural Nonfarm	Rural Farm	Total	Urban	Rural Nonfarm	Rural Farm	Total	Urban	Rural Nonfarm	Rural Farm	Total	Urban	Rural Nonfarm	Rural Farm
METROPOLITAN																				
Persons 16 and over	181,915	135,913	34,217	11,785	149,607	109,189	23,779	16,639	131,039	86,506	21,733	22,800	121,067	69,826	21,970	29,271	114,464	56,967	18,689	38,808
In labor force	118,333	91,857	20,075	6,401	86,147	65,840	12,296	8,011	73,926	50,682	11,253	11,991	65,270	38,857	10,715	15,698	59,875	30,412	8,650	20,813
Participation rate	65.0	67.6	58.7	54.3	57.6	60.3	51.7	48.1	56.4	58.6	51.8	52.6	53.9	55.6	48.8	53.6	52.3	53.4	46.3	53.6
Males 16 and over	89,465	65,922	17,123	6,420	74,397	53,452	11,945	9,000	65,725	41,735	11,437	12,553	62,197	34,175	11,291	16,731	58,631	26,742	9,516	22,373
In labor force	68,540	51,493	12,381	4,666	54,198	39,709	8,050	6,439	23,632	31,628	8,430	10,236	49,109	26,164	8,381	14,564	46,969	20,918	6,988	19,063
Participation rate	76.6	78.1	72.3	72.7	72.8	74.3	67.4	71.5	36.2	75.8	73.7	81.5	79.0	76.5	74.2	87.0	80.1	78.2	73.4	85.2
Females 16 and over	92,450	69,991	17,094	5,365	75,210	55,737	11,834	7,639	65,314	44,771	10,296	10,247	58,870	35,651	10,679	12,540	55,833	30,225	9,173	16,435
In labor force	49,793	40,364	7,694	1,735	31,949	26,131	4,246	1,572	50,294	19,054	2,823	1,755	16,161	12,694	2,334	1,133	12,906	9,494	1,662	1,750
Participation rate	53.9	57.7	45.0	32.3	42.5	46.9	35.9	20.6	76.5	42.5	27.4	17.1	27.4	35.6	21.8	9.0	23.1	31.4	18.1	10.6
NONMETROPOLITAN																				
Persons 16 and over	74,084	14,481	42,991	16,612	69,811	14,531	32,475	22,805	77,874	11,326	33,509	33,039	86,950	10,066	34,496	42,388	97,088	8,176	31,903	57,009
In labor force	40,269	8,358	22,944	8,967	34,081	7,187	15,916	10,978	39,460	5,566	16,826	17,068	44,806	4,706	17,096	23,004	49,574	3,785	15,279	30,510
Participation rate	54.4	57.7	53.4	54.0	48.8	49.4	49.0	48.1	50.7	49.1	50.2	51.7	51.5	46.8	49.6	54.3	51.1	46.3	47.9	53.5
Males 16 and over	37,192	7,171	20,892	9,129	35,363	7,204	15,634	12,525	40,383	5,515	16,683	18,185	46,479	4,999	17,356	24,124	52,803	3,983	16,120	32,700
In labor force	25,459	4,707	13,850	6,902	22,992	4,087	10,026	8,879	29,903	3,437	11,575	14,891	37,455	3,324	12,935	21,196	42,674	2,676	12,044	27,954
Participation rate	68.4	65.6	66.3	75.6	65.0	56.7	64.1	70.9	74.0	62.3	69.4	81.9	80.6	66.5	74.5	87.9	80.8	67.2	74.7	85.5
Females 16 and over	36,892	7,310	22,099	7,483	34,448	7,327	16,841	10,280	37,491	5,811	16,826	14,854	40,471	5,067	17,140	18,264	44,285	4,193	15,783	24,309
In labor force	14,810	3,651	9,094	2,065	11,089	3,100	5,890	2,099	9,557	2,129	5,251	2,177	7,351	1,382	4,161	1,808	6,900	1,109	3,235	2,556
Participation rate	40.1	49.9	41.2	27.6	32.1	42.3	35.7	20.4	25.5	36.6	31.2	14.6	18.2	27.3	24.3	9.9	15.6	26.4	20.5	10.5

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census of Agriculture.

APPENDIX TABLE 9. MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME FOR METROPOLITAN AND NONMETROPOLITAN COUNTIES OF THE RED RIVER VALLEY, 1950-1980

Year	Total		Metropolitan		Nonmetropolitan	
	Number of Families	Median Income	Number of Families	Median Income	Number of Families	Median Income
1950	68,325	$ 3,054	39,590	$ 3,297	28,735	$ 2,720
1960	72,911	$ 4,941	45,502	$ 5,533	27,409	$ 3,959
1970	75,014	$ 8,279	50,252	$ 8,955	24,762	$ 6,906
1980	83,863	$18,831	58,113	$19,843	25,750	$16,536

Note: "Median family income" was calculated as a weighted average of the median family incomes for individual counties.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census of Population.

APPENDIX TABLE 10. FAMILIES IN POVERTY IN METROPOLITAN AND NONMETROPOLITAN RED RIVER VALLEY COUNTIES, 1970 AND 1980

Item	1970	1980
Total		
Total families	75,014	83,863
Families below poverty level	7,804	6,684
Percent below poverty level	10.4%	8.0%
With related children under 18	4,477	4,548
Metropolitan		
Total families	50,252	58,113
Families below poverty level	4,191	3,979
Percent below poverty level	8.3%	6.8%
With related children under 18	2,461	2,905
Nonmetropolitan		
Total families	24,762	25,750
Families below poverty level	3,613	2,705
Percent below poverty level	14.6%	10.5%
With related children under 18	2,016	1,643

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census of Population.

APPENDIX TABLE 11. CHURCHES AND CHURCH ADHERENTS IN METROPOLITAN AND NONMETROPOLITAN COUNTIES OF THE RED RIVER VALLEY, 1971 AND 1980*

Item	1971**	1980	Percent Change
Metropolitan			
Total population	215,775	238,518	10.5
Churches	292	301	3.1
Adherents	149,777	154,797	3.4
Nonmetropolitan			
Total population	100,203	97,675	-2.5
Churches	304	299	-1.6
Adherents	82,309	77,764	-5.5
Total			
Total population	315,978	336,193	6.4
Churches	596	600	0.7
Adherents	232,086	232,561	0.2

*Based on a survey of 53 denominations accounting for 80.8 percent of church membership.
**Total population counts are as of the 1970 census.

SOURCE: Johnson et al. 1971; Quinn et al. 1980.